

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-12, and 15-33 are pending. As indicated above, claim 21 has been amended to be consistent with the proposed draft claim sent to the Examiner on June 23, 2004.


The Office Action indicated that claim 1, 3-5, 7-12, and 15-33 are allowable, but issued a provisional nonstatutory double patenting rejection over claims 1-13, 19-24, 25-32, 33-39, and 41-45 of copending Application No. 09/679,720.

Although Application No. 09/679,720 has not yet issued, a Notice of Allowance was mailed on July 12, 2004. Accordingly, with this response Applicants submit a terminal disclaimer to overcome the nonstatutory double patenting rejection.

In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 2nd day of September, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



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